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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 1/22/2007

SPONSOR Altamirano LAST UPDATED _____ HB _____

SHORT TITLE WNMU TEACHER PREPARATION PROGRAM SB 118

ANALYST McOlash

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY07	FY08		
	\$388.6	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

New Mexico Higher Education Department (HED)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 118 appropriates \$388,600 from the General Fund to the Board of Regents of Western New Mexico University (WNMU) for expenditure in FY08 to maintain the web-based teacher preparation program.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$388,600 contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the General Fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY 2008 shall revert to the General Fund.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The WNMU web-based teacher licensure program has been in existence since 2004. The goal of the web-based teacher licensure is to provide alternative educational opportunities for teacher licensure and endorsement through the Network for Web-based Teacher Licensure (NeTL). NeTL provides a vital distance learning option for prospective teachers to access online classes

to complete course requirements for licensure, continuing licensure, and endorsement. NeTL offers educators in rural areas an alternative access to college-level courses via distance education.

This request was submitted by WNMU to the New Mexico Higher Education Department for review, but is not included in the Department's recommendation for FY08 as additional funding. The HED reports that WNMU is already receiving a recurring General Fund appropriation of \$388,600 in FY07 for its web-based teacher preparation program.

BM/nt:mt